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TO THE CITY'S TRANSPORTATION
MASTER PLAN, OUR SURVEY SAYS PAGE 4

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Thursday, November 15, 2012



A manly mani for WEAR PURPLE DAY

Western University football coach Greg Marshall, left, the London Lightning's Michael Ray Richardson and London Knights coach Dale Hunter show off their purple flair after getting manicures on Wednesday at Artistic Esthetic Spa (391 Central Ave.). The London Abused Women's Centre is asking everyone to celebrate the month-long Shine the Light on Woman Abuse campaign on Thursday by marking Wear Purple Day. To learn more, go to lawc.on.ca/shinethelight. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Hospitals on target: Report

Health care. Latest statistics show wait-time reductions at St. Joe's and LHSC



ANGELA MULLINS
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London hospitals are meeting the province's targeted wait times for several core procedures, lagging behind their peers in only a few areas, the latest Ministry of Health statistics suggest.

Numbers released this week by Health Minister Deb Matthews shows St. Joseph's Hospital and London Health Sciences Centre are meeting targets for everything from cataract surgery to CT scans in at least 86 per cent of cases.

St. Joe's is completing 100 per cent of general surgeries on target, the best showing in the six categories Matthews cited. Despite that, the hospital's average wait of 137 days between July and September was above the provincial average of 107 days, according to the health ministry's website.

The hospital was also above the average for cataract surgery, but came in with shorter wait times than most for CT scans.

Waits at LHSC were below the provincial average for hip replacements, knee replacements and CT scans. People waited longer than average for general surgeries.

The breakdown

Wait times for some medical procedures*



- Cataract surgery:**
 - Provincial average: 130 days
 - London Health Sciences Centre**: Service not offered from July to September 2012
 - St. Joseph's Health Care London: 167 days

- Hip replacement:**
 - Average: 196 days
 - LHSC: 157 days
 - SJ: Reported no or low volume of service from July to September 2012

- Knee replacement:**
 - Average: 225 days
 - LHSC: 180 days
 - SJ: Reported no or low volume of service from July to September 2012

CT scans:

- Average: 39 days
- LHSC: 25 days
- SJ: 24 days

MRI scans:

- Average: 91 days
- LHSC: 114 days
- SJ: 72 days

General surgery:

- Average: 39 days
- LHSC: 142 days
- SJ: 137 days

* Data based on Ministry of Health reports for July, August and September 2012.

** LHSC data includes all sites.

70 from 112 days.

The achievements are noteworthy, said Dr. Chris Simpson, chairman of Canada's Wait Time Alliance, a group of health-care professionals working with other stakeholders on the issue. At the same time, everyone involved in health care needs to continue pushing forward, he said.

"Even though we're going in the right direction, that doesn't mean things couldn't reverse a little bit and start to get worse again on a moment's notice," Simpson said. "Let's never be satisfied."

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Untimely death of new mom emboldens fertility campaign

Fertility Ontario.

Generous donations left by deceased woman inspires philanthropic program

 JOHN MATISZ
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Usually, finding a curious package in one's office leads to a cautious call to the police.

One day in August, however, it was quite the opposite for Dr. John McNaught and

his colleagues at Fertility Ontario on Baseline Road.

"I came in one day and there was an envelope of cheques from a funeral home," said McNaught, the fertility clinic's medical director. "It was from the funeral service of a lady I've never met before, never heard of before."

The six cheques, all addressed to Fertility Ontario, totalled \$310. A few phone calls later, McNaught found out redirecting funeral donations was the deceased's idea.

McNaught was immediately touched by the generosity



and randomness. The woman, a 36-year-old named Laura from Sarnia, was not a patient

of his or his colleagues. Apparently, her husband found Fertility Ontario on Google.

"She had suffered for a number of years from miscarriages," McNaught said. "And then, when she finally gave birth to a healthy child, she passed away from complications from the pregnancy."

Since the cheques and Laura's story came into McNaught's life, Fertility Ontario, along with local marketing agency tbk Creative, created Laura's Wish. It's a philanthropic program with a single goal: Continue Laura's legacy by offering free fertil-

ity therapy to those in need.

"I felt like we had to do more than just accept the money and spend it," McNaught said. "We're not looking to raise money; we're looking to help people."

On April 14, 2013, the clinic will offer a full cycle of fertility therapy to a chosen applicant. To apply for a free fertility treatment, visit FertilityOntario.com.

After that, who knows where Laura's Wish will go.

"We're really just trying to take that motive expressed to us, help one person, and go from there," McNaught said.

Flower power! Young skaters compete for chance to retrieve gifts thrown to champs

Ella McRoberts, 11, of Inverkip, plucks a Teddy bear off the Budweiser Gardens ice during Wednesday's Skate Canada auditions for flower retrievers to serve at the March World Figure Skating Championships in London. Fifty-four nine- to 13-year-olds secured tryouts for a chance at 20 available positions. Skate Canada officials announced Wednesday that Olympic bronze medallist Joannie Rochette, who calls Montreal home, has been named the championships' athlete ambassador. ANGELA MULLINS/METRO



Organic waste processor. Committee wants staff to lean on Orgaworld

City politicians are expected to decide next week if staff will play a bigger role in monitoring activities at Orgaworld, a south London organic-waste processor.

Planning committee members will recommend at Tuesday's council meeting that administrators work closer with the Ministry of Environment, Orgaworld's public-liaison committee and the community.

That work would include helping concerned residents near the plant take on technical research, and keeping a close eye on environmental review tribunal decisions about the facility.

Orgaworld (4675 Wellington

Stench

- Committee members will not recommend the city draft an odour bylaw aimed at regulating what people living near Orgaworld have called a sickening stench.

- Staff had presented the bylaw — along with one establishing odour controls through licensing — as an option.

Rd. S.) turns organic waste from the Toronto area and St. Thomas into compost.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Two people arrested

Drug trafficking charges laid

Two people were charged after police searched a York Street address Tuesday and found \$62,000 worth of drugs. Kacper Brzozowski, 24, of Ilderton, and Leah Kordos, 22, of London, are charged with multiple counts of trafficking. METRO

Flu cases confirmed

Influenza gets an early start

The Middlesex-London Health Unit announced Wednesday there are three confirmed cases of influenza in London, potentially indicating an early start to the flu season. METRO

Federal cash. A 20-year infrastructure plan is needed: City of London

With the federal government wrapping up nearly six months of consultations on its long-term infrastructure plan, the City of London is backing the Federation of Canadian Municipalities proposal which says Canada needs a 20-year plan with predictable funding to fix its crumbling infrastructure.

"We need to know there is adequate funding to meet our requirements," Mayor Joe Fontana said in a news release. "We need to work together — with all levels of government — to ensure the integrity of our infrastructure is maintained and the financial burden is shared."

It starts here

"Municipalities are on the front line of keeping our city's essential services and transportation links in good repair." Mayor Joe Fontana

The City of London will be moving forward on water infrastructure projects and increasing access to the 401 and 402 corridors. The city said finding the right balance in funding to make this happen will require a co-operative program between the federal government and the municipalities. METRO

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NEWS

London Matters: Now that's a plan!

Part 4 of a five-part series. Londoners upbeat about improving transportation in city

Transportation Master Plan 2030.

Not a sexy name, but it sure is a sexy idea, Londoners say.

About three years in the making at city hall, the plan for doing a bit of everything — from widening streets to fast-tracking buses — got glowing reviews in the recent London Matters survey.

Of 503 people questioned, 78 per cent said the billion-dollar initiative — approved by council this year — will improve traffic flow. While full implementation isn't slated for more than a decade, the wheels are already rolling, said Larry Ducharme, general manager of the London Transit Commission.

At the heart of the plan is a rapid bus network, and the LTC is developing a marketing campaign that will be used to help sell the provincial and federal governments on picking up a combined two-thirds of the expected \$378-million price tag.

In other words: "We've got to make the plan dance now," Ducharme said.

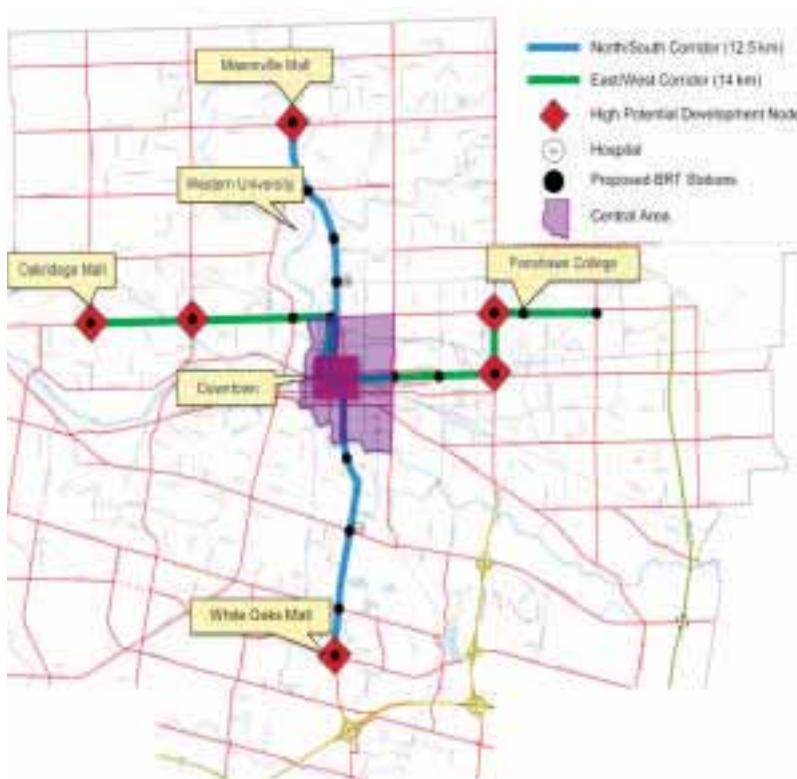
Plans call for the rapid-transit system to be built around a north-south corridor connecting White Oaks Mall to Masonville Place and an east-west corridor from Oakridge Mall to just east of Fanshawe College. The routes would run through downtown and have a limited number of stops. They would also be dotted with traffic controls that give buses the go-ahead before cars.

Ducharme hopes to build momentum for the full rollout by bringing some semi-express bus routes on board much sooner. The first — linking the city's north end to downtown via Richmond Street — is set to debut next year. In 2014, plans call for a similar route on Wellington, linking the White Oaks area to downtown.

Larry Ducharme
METRO



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A key aspect of the proposed rapid-transit system is limiting the number of stops and giving buses the go-ahead before cars. Londoners — especially those in the 18 to 34 age group — were enthusiastic about the Transportation Master Plan in the London Matters survey. CONTRIBUTED

City traffic remains maddeningly slow



Traffic snarls into gridlock at the corner of Wharncliffe Road, looking north, where Springbank Drive turns into Horton Street. MARK SPOWART/FOR METRO

Eugene Ducharme makes a living driving — and teaching others to navigate — city streets.

His pick for the worst traffic in London? "I think you could say the south end, like Wellington and Commissioners down to the 401," said Ducharme, owner of Buddy Driving School.

He's not alone. South London, north London and downtown are all hot spots for poor traffic flow, a recent survey suggests. Downtown came up most often among the 470 people who replied to the survey question.

Ducharme doesn't quite understand why people have

a hard time driving downtown. Granted, there's a lot of negotiating with buses, pedestrians, one-way streets, and intersections that don't allow turns. But traffic controls in the core are excellent, he says, and the speed limit is lower, making the area easy to navigate for an alert driver.

As for the south and north ends of the city, Ducharme is 100 per cent on board with people who consider them dragnets for tie-ups and accidents. He equated south London to a "free-for-all."

"People are so crazy and in such a hurry. There's no patience at all."

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

Slow jams

Worst traffic areas of the city, according to the London Matters survey:

- **Downtown:** 148 survey respondents
- **South London (Wellington Road South/ Commissioners area):** 92 respondents
- **Uptown (Oxford/Wharncliffe, Oxford/Richmond area):** 61 respondents

Making transit inroads

Build it and they will ride: LTC



More Londoners are using public transit, the London Matters survey suggests.

AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO

There's one sure way to encourage the use of public transit: Make it better, LTC chief Larry Ducharme said. "You have to invest to do that. You have to keep putting money into the system."

Londoners surveyed on the city's new transportation plan made it clear that improvements equal riders, Ducharme said.

The London Matters survey suggests London needs to invest more. Sixty-one per cent questioned recently said the city isn't doing enough to encourage public-transit use.

People want more direct routes, buses to hit stops more frequently and, in general, better coverage throughout the city, Ducharme said. But that takes money and, with public budgets tight, extra dollars have been hard to come by.

Despite that, the London Matters survey shows more Londoners are using public transit. Of the people who responded, 48 per cent said they use it at some point during the year. "That tells you we're making inroads to the whole population," Ducharme said.

About four years ago, the number stood somewhere between 35 and 40 per cent, he added.

ANGELA MULLINS/METRO

503

The number of Londoners who responded to the survey, conducted by MQO Research from Oct. 15 to 23 (212 men, 291 women). The margin of error is plus or minus four percentage points.

Could be better

28% The number of respondents who gave the public transit system a rating of 8 out of 10 or higher.

15% Said they didn't know, which suggests they're probably not transit users.

Optimism

85% Londoners were optimistic about the Transportation Master Plan 2030, but none more so than the 18-to-34 age group: 85 per cent of 116 respondents said the plan will improve traffic flow.

Transit use

Do you think the city is doing enough to encourage people to use public transportation?

Yes 31% (35% men, 27% women)

Don't know (8% men, 9% women)

No 61% (56% men, 65% women)

Best and worst

How effective is the city in clearing snow from London roads? It depends on who you ask:

20% Scored the city on the bottom end, 1 to 3

29% Scored the city on the top end, 8 to 10

Coming on Friday

- Where would you take a visitor to show off the Forest City? Do you think you're here to stay? Would you encourage someone to move here? We wrap up our first London Matters survey with a closer look about how Londoners feel about their city.
- Read the entire series at metronews.ca.



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Strike averted. CAW, Martinrea Automotive reach deal; vote is today

A strike has been averted at Martinrea Automotive in London. CAW Local 27 and company officials reached an agreement around 9:30 p.m. Tuesday night, short of the 11 p.m. deadline that had been set by the union.

The agreement means 120 workers avoid the picket line. A ratification vote is expected to start Thursday.

Local 27 president Tim Carries says they found a way to get the deal done.

"Issues included wages, but until we ratify (Thursday), I won't release that," Carries said. "Suffice it to say, we found a way to find an agreement that continues the plant running, we feel secure for our members not the only one. **AM980/AM980.ca**

Basketball

Lightning sign 5-time CIS champ Osvaldo Jeanty

The London Lightning signed six-foot Ottawa point guard

Ratification

Workers were looking for a better deal that would decrease their workload and the speed of the line.

and we're going to continue to service CAMI."

Pressure was on both sides to reach an agreement. Had workers gone on strike, production at CAMI Ingersoll would have been significantly impacted. CAMI is Martinrea's main customer. Carrie says that was a factor in bargaining talks, but not the only one. **AM980/AM980.ca**



Waving goodbye to bullying with a sea of pink

Students from Clarke Road Secondary School show their spirit Wednesday during a Sea of Pink event to cap off days worth of bullying awareness activities. About 600 students and staff decked out in pink gathered on the front lawn to take a stand against bullying. Since Monday, an estimated 1,000 people at the school have taken the Pledge to End Bullying. **ANGELA MULLINS/METRO**

Freestyle. Shad comes home to give back

Acclaimed hip-hop artist Shad is home this week, in London to support Spark, a program that pairs high school students with mentors and inspires them to get creative.

"Spark is this notion of creating a whole bunch of different ideas," said Sean Mattys, a facilitator for the program.

It encourages students to engage with something they are interested in, be it art, music, or literature. It helps them fan that spark into a fire, learning from experts and mentors in the community, Mattys said.

Mattys, a Thames Valley teacher, started Spark in partnership with the social justice and peace studies program at King's University College. In May he helps host an annual event that sees more than 600 London students step out of their comfort zones and challenge themselves. Through different workshops students can learn how to DJ, participate in

Fanning the spark

- Shad performed Wednesday in Ailsa Craig at Ye Old Town Hall for students who are wards of the state.
- "Many of them are under 24/7 care," said Sean Mattys, the event's organizer. "It's a great opportunity for them to interact with the music in an interesting space."

a poetry slam, or write a song. Shad performed for Londoners involved with the initiative at Prochnier Hall, next door to the Palace Theatre on Tuesday night, and took the stage again Wednesday afternoon at Ye Old Town Hall in Ailsa Craig to perform for high school students who are Spark participants. **AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO**



Shad performed Tuesday night to a packed crowd at Prochnier Hall, next door to the Palace Theatre. **AMANDA GRANT/FOR METRO**

Rare Thursday home game gives Knights the chance to extend win streak to six

Having fun out there.

Powered up London club set to face off with Oshawa Generals

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Of the four games in the OHL on Thursday, the London Knights versus Oshawa Generals match holds the greatest intrigue.

It's a meeting of two teams going in opposite directions.

Oshawa, quick out of the gate with six wins in its first seven games, is on the down slope. London, on the other hand, is feeling like a million bucks.

"I feel like the team is kind of relaxed, enjoying playing," said second-year Knights rearguard Olli Maatta. "We know we're doing the right things. Everyone is having fun out there."

Maatta's leadership on the backend has been instrumental in the Knights attempt to stay neck-and-neck

with a pair of early season Midwest Division powerhouses, the Owen Sound Attack and Kitchener Rangers.

The Finn is arguably the club's best all-around defenceman. He can munch crucial 5-on-5 minutes, and effortlessly transition to first-unit time on the power play and penalty kill.

The squad's penalty kill, ranked fourth in the OHL, is clicking at an 83.9 per cent success rate.

"Last year was a little different," said the 17-year-old, who is also third in team scoring. "I was a rookie and didn't know the guys well yet. I needed time to get used to the league."

What could potentially spoil the "fun" Maatta alludes to — or, to be more specific, a five-game win streak — is homegrown talent Boone Jenner and his Oshawa teammate Scott Sabourin.

The duo played well against the Knights in an Oct. 14 win for the Generals. Jenner and Sabourin both command respect from their opponents, bringing equal parts skill and enforcement

to the ice every night.

"He's one of the top players in the league, so we're definitely going to have to put Olli and Harri (Knights captain Scott Harrington) out against him," said London coach Dale Hunter of Jenner. The Dorchester native has 17 goals and 33 points, placing him in a tie for second in league scoring.

Jenner will attempt to solve a former teammate on Thursday, as London goalie coach Bill Dark says ex-General Kevin Bailie is scheduled to start between the pipes.



London Knights defenceman Olli Maatta fires a shot on net during practice at Budweiser Gardens on Wednesday. **JOHN MATISZ/METRO**

How they stack up

London: T-2nd in Midwest Division (13-5-0-2)

- Coming off 5-3 win over Sault Ste. Marie
- Leading scorer is Seth Griffith (31 points in 20 games)
- Goaltenders are Kevin Bailie (.928 save percentage) & Jake Patterson (.920)
- Coming off 2-1 loss to Kitchener
- Leading scorer is Boone Jenner (33 in 22)
- Goaltenders are Daniel Altshuller (.909) & Ken Appleby (.857)

Oshawa: 1st in East Division (11-9-0-2)

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Government defends exclusion of Carol Todd at bullying summit

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Inspired by her daughter. Mother of Amanda Todd said she only wanted to listen, watch and absorb the information

 **PHYLICIA TREVILLIAS**
Metro in Vancouver

The B.C. government is defending its decision to leave out Carol Todd from an anti-bullying summit that was inspired by her daughter Amanda's tragic death.

Education Minister Don McRae told reporters Wednesday that two experts on bullying and anti-bullying response — Theresa Campbell and Kevin Cameron — expressed concern that Todd's presence could pose risks for the students or young adults.

"They expressed concern that if Mrs. Todd were to attend



Amanda Todd FACEBOOK

with the young people that the risk for unintended consequence was there," he said.

Cameron, the executive director of the Canadian Center for Threat Assessment and Trauma Response, said they wanted a lower-anxiety forum focused on bullying and not on trauma.

He also advised the ministry to meet Todd beforehand to

ERASE

"If you're going to mention my daughter's name, then I would think it would've been nice if the parents were invited."

Carol Todd, whose daughter Amanda took her own life early last month.

discuss the issues that her presence could have both for her and the young participants.

"It was an understanding from prior experience with high-profile traumas that I have dealt with, many parents want to be present, feel they can, and in the end ... they wished they had never said yes because they weren't able to manage their emotion and it was too soon after the traumatic incident."

The ERASE bullying summit was held Tuesday and gathered more than 100 students, educators and experts to talk about ways to combat bullying.

Liberal race. Ex-MP Martha Hall Findlay seeks federal leadership ... again

The federal Liberal leadership race has another high-profile candidate.

Former MP Martha Hall Findlay, who also sought the party's top job in 2006, came forward Wednesday on the first official day of the leadership campaign.

"In 2006, there were some who questioned my run for leadership. But soon most were calling it gutsy. Before long people were coming up to me all the time to say how much I inspired them," Hall Findlay said as she made her announcement in Calgary.

"We need to take on (NDP Leader) Thomas Mulcair right

where it counts and where he's the weakest — the economy. We need to take on (Prime Minister) Stephen Harper, take the fight to him, not just wait and react defensively to the next round of attack ads."

Hall Findlay joins Justin Trudeau, who announced his candidacy six weeks ago, and four others.

They include Toronto lawyer Deborah Coyne, Vancouver Crown prosecutor Alex Burton, Ottawa lawyer David Bertschi and David Merner, former president of the party's British Columbia wing. The Liberals are to choose a new leader in April. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**



Martha Hall Findlay announces that she will be a candidate in the federal Liberal leadership race during a press conference in Calgary on Wednesday. **LARRY MACDOUGAL/THE CANADIAN PRESS**

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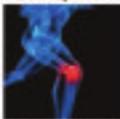
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Hollinger. Former exec reaches plea agreement with OSC

Conrad Black's former business partner David Radler has been barred from acting as an officer or director of a public company in Ontario for his role in the fraud at Hollinger newspaper group, but has escaped financial penalty.

The plea agreement approved Wednesday saw the Ontario Securities Commission withdraw all charges against Radler.

Radler, who lives in Vancouver and oversees a privately held newspaper group, was not present at the 15-minute hearing in downtown Toronto.

"Mr. Radler is moving on with his life," said his lawyer, David J. Martin.

The ban is indefinite, although Radler can apply to have it reviewed at any time.

OSC Commissioner Christopher Portner said he was "satisfied" with the joint-agreement and that it kept in line with the regulator's mandate of protecting Ontario's capital markets.

Radler is also prohibited from becoming a registrant, employee, director or officer of a registrant or an affiliated

Market Minute

DOLLAR
99.62¢ (-0.19¢)

TSX
11,929.79 (-204.87)

OIL
\$86.32 US (+94¢)

GOLD
\$1,730.10 US (+\$5.30)

Natural gas: \$3.76 US (+2.1¢)

Dow Jones: 12,570.95 (-185.23)

public company in Ontario. He must also refrain from directly or indirectly trading or acquiring securities related to Hollinger Inc.

Wednesday's deal is related to charges originally filed in March 2005 against Radler, Black, and Hollinger Inc., which at one time controlled a newspaper empire that operated in Canada, the United States, Britain and elsewhere.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Canadians' summer spending spree

Did the warm weather loosen our collective purse strings? According to a report released Wednesday, Canadian debt loads grew at their fastest pace in two years during the summer — an alarming rate, given that officials continue to warn consumers that household spending is out of control. Credit reporting agency TransUnion's latest quarterly analysis of Canadian credit trends found average consumer non-mortgage debt jumped 4.6 per cent year-over-year in the third quarter to an average of \$26,768. GETTY IMAGES FILE

Nexen deal

Prentice calls for clarity on state-owned investment

Former Conservative cabinet minister Jim Prentice says strict rules on governance and investment transparency are needed if state-owned enterprises

are allowed to move into Canada, but that the country cannot afford to turn its back on such opportunities.

In a speech to the Oil and Money 2012 conference in London, Prentice said current turbulence over investments by state-owned enterprises in Canada may have caught some in the international community by surprise.

However, Prentice, now a senior executive with Canada Imperial Bank of Commerce, said the controversy has been building for years. It recently came to a head with a couple of major takeover deals — including the \$15.2-billion bid by state-owned China National Overseas Oil Corp for Nexen Inc.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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A PENCHANT FOR CATS



HE
SAYS...
John Mazerolle
metronews.ca

I have a deep, dark secret to reveal, as difficult to cough up as a hairball: I like house cats.

In this world of chronic cat-smugglers and billionaire Instagram founders, that

might not seem like a source of shame. But embracing kitties goes against all my instincts; it's as off-putting to me as stroking a tabby in the wrong direction.

I've always said I hate cats. Even my Twitter bio says so, and if you can't trust Twitter (the microblog of record) what can you trust?

But as I age my kitty-rage is abating, purr by purr.

My frosty feelings toward felines have been perfectly valid, of course. It's well documented that cats care more about themselves than us, and I haven't dealt well with that constant level of rejection.

If there was a *Lassie/Littlest Hobo*-type show called *The Wandering Cat*, he'd just come across a person trapped in a burning car or a kid stuck down a well every week, then chuckle to himself and move on.

Like most humans, I require more validation than cats can offer. If you ever needed an argument against the religious belief that everything on Earth is here for the benefit of man, look no further than Mr. Cat. We've clearly been put here for him. God is a cat.

And an Old Testament God at that: Make no mistake, kitties are killers. Everything they do — the constant cleaning, the claw maintenance, the yarn-based, paw-hand co-ordination training — all done to make them the most efficient instrument of slaughter possible. I can only assume their instinct to lay on keyboards comes from a long history of sending bird and mice families letters of condolence.

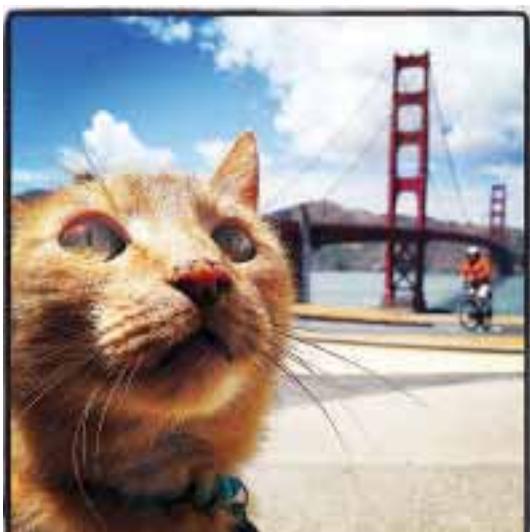
And, fair or not, I've always compared felines to dogs, whose whole purpose on Earth is to a) make clear how incredibly excited they are to know you and b) lick their nether regions with vigour. This probably also had hunting purposes once, but now it's pretty clear the dogs just enjoy crotch cleaning. I can get behind this.

I never gave cats a fair shake, because animal-rights groups say you shouldn't do that. But decades of nuzzles and leg rubs and purrs have reached me, I guess.

I still don't like aggressive cats — Siamese are clearly Satan-Cats — but I don't judge dogs based on pit bulls or humans based on the guy in the bank line picking his nose, so fair's fair.

There was never a Special Moment that put cats in my good books. It just happened, after years of surreptitious scratches behind the ear. It had always irked me that cats want to be in control, but I've decided to let them if it works out in the end.

I've learned to be the bigger pussy. It's what *The Wandering Cat* has taught me.



Like it or not, the kitty cat is king. Be wary of razor-sharp claws and superlative night vision. JUSTIN SULLIVAN/GETTY IMAGES

Black eye in the night sky



TOURISM QUEENSLAND/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Watch the skies

Lights out in Australia

Australia's first total solar eclipse in more than a decade was visible Wednesday. The spectacular event was watched by enthusiastic crowds, with more than 50,000 flocking to Queensland, the site of the best views.

The eclipse cast a 150-kilometre shadow over northern Australia, spreading darkness over the region, lasting over two minutes. METRO

No. 1 eclipse fan



"I was thinking, 'Are we gonna see this?' And we just had a fantastic display, it was just beautiful."

Terry Cuttle of the Astronomical Association of Queensland
Cuttle is the most prominent local eclipse enthusiast. He has witnessed more than 10 of these events.

One more left

This was the third of four eclipses in 2012, down from six in 2011.

- May 20 — Annular solar eclipse. The moon partly covered the sun for more than three hours on a path visible from China, Japan and parts of North America.

- June 4 — Partial lunar eclipse. Moon partly hidden and turned red by reflected sunlight. The best views were in

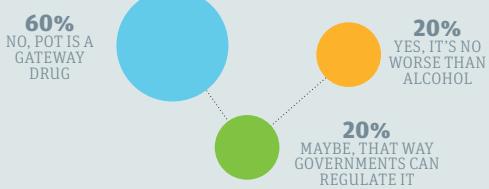
Western Canada.

- Nov. 14 — Total solar eclipse. Travelled back to Nov. 13 as it finished close to the coast of South America. Lasted up to four minutes.
- Nov. 28 — Penumbral lunar eclipse. The last eclipse will see the moon partly hidden by shadow and tinged red. Australia, East Asia and Hawaii will have the best viewing positions.



Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should Canada follow some U.S. states in legalizing marijuana?



Twitter

@tonayala: Your 20's are ur selfish yrs. It's a decade to immerse yourself in every single thing possible. Travel, love a lot, love a little, just live

hear how often sirens go off lol

@MGirash: For goodness sake #Ldnont, if you don't want your dog to play with other dogs, don't bring it to the dogpark.

@wazfly: Beautiful day in #Ldnont today... Ahhhh dont we all just love a little sunshine. #Ldnont

@MissRabbitxo: Living near an ambulance dispatch kind of sucks cause I get to

Let this talented folk trio tell you a tale over an ale

Autumn tour.

Shawn Clarke, Chris Thompson and Aaron Mangoff clicked one night and have gelled musically since



BACKSTAGE
PASS
Amanda Grant
london@metronews.ca

If you're looking for a folk music fix, check out the London Music Club on Friday night. Folk musicians Shawn Clarke, Chris Thompson, and Aaron Mangoff are coming to town as part of their autumn tour.

"It's a good opportunity to see the variety that can be offered by a particular genre," said Clarke.

And it's true.

While Clarke plays with lyrics and the tradition of storytelling, Chris Thompson performs instrumental pieces, highlighting his skills as a guitarist, adopting a style reminiscent of Don Ross.

"He puts my guitar playing to shame," said Clarke.

Aaron Mangoff is a blend of the two. He got his start in loud rock bands, but his strong voice carries his solo songs with a much softer tone.

The three musicians met in their mutual hometown of Orillia while playing a show at a local bar. From there they decided to hit the road together, providing three unique sets each night of their 15-date tour.

They also put together a free sample album, previewing their sound for potential audiences online.

Around town

- **Music.** If you're in the mood for some rock 'n' roll Friday night, try the London Music Hall. Sloan is in town, touring to support the re-release of its celebrated album *Twice Removed*. Tickets are \$20 in advance available at Grooves and The Early Bird, or online at londonmusichall.ca.

- **Art.** Museum London hosts the Artemusa Festival, an art sale featuring hand-crafted jewellery, accessories and clothing. Fourteen vendors will be selling wearable art at the gallery Saturday and Sunday from noon to 5 p.m.

"I thought it might be a nice idea to get the word out since people may not know all of us," said Clarke. "And it gives you a taste of what to expect from our live sets."

Clarke, who is based out of Toronto, has a long history in London.

He's played countless shows in the city over the years and was one of the original members of local group Olenka and the Autumn Lovers. "People mistake me for a Londoner," Clarke said. "The scene is just so welcoming to anyone who is interested; I've made a lot of friends within it." Friday night Clarke, Thompson, and Mangoff play the London Music Club, kicking things off in the front room at 9 p.m. Tickets are \$5 at the door.

You can download the free sampler (and see what's in store for the show) online at autumntour.bandcamp.com.



Musician Shawn Clarke HANDOUT



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Hey Jude, it's not so bad — take repression — and make it better

Anna Karenina. Jude Law talks about being cuckolded and playing a man who's never been in touch with his feelings

 **NED EHRBAR**
Metro World News in Hollywood

In Joe Wright's imaginative take on Anna Karenina, Jude Law turns in a career-best performance as Alexei Karenin, the cuckolded husband of Tolstoy's titular heroine (played by Keira Knightley). In our exclusive video, Law talks to Metro World News about playing repressed — and how his character is definitely not a wife-beater.

I wanted to first of all talk about how you take on a character who's so... I wouldn't say "repressed," but...
No, repressed is right (laughs).

You're keeping every emotion inside. Is that frustrating to play?
No, because the frustration when you're playing a part is not feeling that you're getting the right support or information from the director, and Joe [Wright] was really clear, and we talked endlessly in preparation about his repression and his severity and also his almost introspection. He's a man who thought his way through life and didn't feel. Like, he had to thaw his heart in order to understand what it was going through once this affair began and dragged him into the world of feeling, you know? There were strict rules, if you like, that I applied to myself. And when you're given such a bold and visual universe to play in, such as the one that Joe created for us, that can sometimes be very straightforward. You apply them, you stick to them and you hope that people find something whole and real in it.

Can you give me some examples of those rules?
I liked the idea that he followed only straight lines. Everything stayed together. I tried to almost minimize use of facial expressions. I didn't want him to raise his voice. So there were scenes of huge emotion and anger, but I think if you listen he never raises his voice once. And there's a stillness to him — apart from the knuckle-cracking, which



Anna Karenina opens in theatres November 30. HANDOUT

is his sort of one expression of irritation and frustration.

That became terrifying by the end of the movie.
Did it? Someone said to me, yeah, yesterday they thought that when I cracked my

knuckles I was going to hit her. I was like, this guy is barely alive. He's not about to hit his wife.

Were you actually cracking your knuckles, or was that all Foley?

I was initially. Take four, they weren't making much noise, so a lot of it is Foley.

Well, you have to let them build back up again.
That's right.

Exclusively online

- **Watch.** Metro's Ned Ehrbar chat with Jude Law at metronews.ca/scene



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Donald Trump. ALL GETTY IMAGES

Donald Trump continues to address the big issues

Offering his thoughts on the presidential election — and how the U.S. is in need of a “revolution” — isn’t apparently enough for Donald Trump, who’s now using his Twitter account to weigh in on other weighty matters. For instance, when it comes to *Twilight* costars Robert Pattinson and Kristen Stewart and their recent reconciliation, Trump apparently has little faith in Stewart’s fidelity.

“After

Fri-

day’s *Twilight* release, I hope Robert Pattinson will not be seen in public with Kristen,” Trump wrote. “She will cheat on him again!”

The tweet immediately drew the ire of the *Twilight* fan base, so Trump next took his case directly to Pattinson, with a tweet.

“Robert, I’m getting a lot of heat for saying you should dump Kristen — but I’m right.”

The 23-year-old man who claimed he was only 16 when he had a sexual relationship with Elmo puppeteer Kevin Clash has recanted his claim, according to the Los Angeles Times.

The unidentified accuser “wants it to be known that his sexual relationship with Mr. Clash was an adult consensual relationship,” a statement from his attorney

reads.

Clash had taken a leave of absence from Sesame Street when the allegations made headlines earlier this week.

“I am relieved that this painful allegation has been put to rest,” Clash says in a statement. “I will not discuss it further.”

The same goes for Sesame Workshop, the company behind the long-running children’s show.

“We are pleased that this matter has been brought to a close. We are happy that Kevin can move on from this unfortunate episode,” the company’s statement reads.

Elmo puppeteer cleared of accusations

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METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word



Twitter



@TheEllenShow

The guys from @OneDirection told me what they’re looking for in a girlfriend. I had 5,000 applicants ready.



@ChristianSlater4

I’m just quietly living my life. Watching the roomba suck up all the cat hair.



@oliviawilde

Note: don’t over-indulge at the Meatball Shop just so you can ask the waiter how he likes his balls eaten.



@ConanOBrien

Fall is in the air. No wait, that’s car exhaust. Still, it’s a more autumnal-smelling car exhaust.



Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie

Pitt and Jolie shut down restaurant for their kids

Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie know how to show their kids a good time when they visit Pitt’s parents and it involves letting them run wild at local restaurant Arri’s Pizza, according to *Us Weekly*.

The place shuts

down for the entire night and the kids raise a ruckus. They jump on tables and even throw food at each other,” a source says, adding that Pitt and Jolie like to leave the nannies at home and “let the kids enjoy themselves” for the evening. “Brad and Angelina just sit there and talk to one another while the children run around in circles.”

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Left to right: A wine-soaked pout from Chanel's new holiday campaign, Rihanna's must-copy dramatic lip at Victoria's Secret and burgundy looks nailed by Naomie Harris and Sara Blomqvist.



3
TRE

Burgundy boom

Beauty. Shades of Merlot and oxblood are a runway-endorsed beauty trend. But it was Rihanna's recent performance at the Victoria's Secret show that has us really craving a dark lip.

ROMINA
MCQUINNESS
life@metronews.ca

Choose the shade to best flatter your skin tone

This bit of advice will keep you from looking like a washed out Goth. "If you have very light

skin, avoid a dark burgundy. It's too heavy on the face," says makeup guru Tanya Burr, who is most known for her YouTube tutorials on how to re-create celebrity looks.

"People with olive complexions can pull off darker shades because it won't be such a shock against the skin. And for dark skin, vibrant shades of burgundy, such as MAC's lipstick in Rebel, are most flattering," she adds.

Avoid textures that are too matte or too glossy

It's not just the shade of burgundy you need to get right, but the texture. "Completely matte, dark lipsticks look too heavy," Burr says. "And ones that are too glossy are really hard to work with because they

end up all over your teeth." Go for a satin, creamy finish for the best results.

Balance a heavy lip with a subtle, smoky eye

Balance is the operative word here. "Because burgundy lips are so heavy, you don't want to go full-on, applying lots of dark eye makeup," Burr says. "On the other hand, I wouldn't wear a naked eye either because otherwise the eyes and the lips will be really unbalanced. Don't think, 'I'll just put on mascara.' You'll have no definition on the eyes and be all lip," she adds. Instead, she recommends trying a subtle, soft brown smoky eye as a way to round out the drama of the lip.

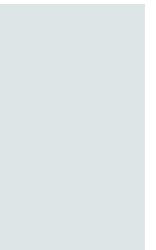
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@Jeanne_Beker: Check out exquisite aboriginal beadwork of Tammy Beauvais in Kahnawake @ Manitobah mukluks
@EtalkCTV

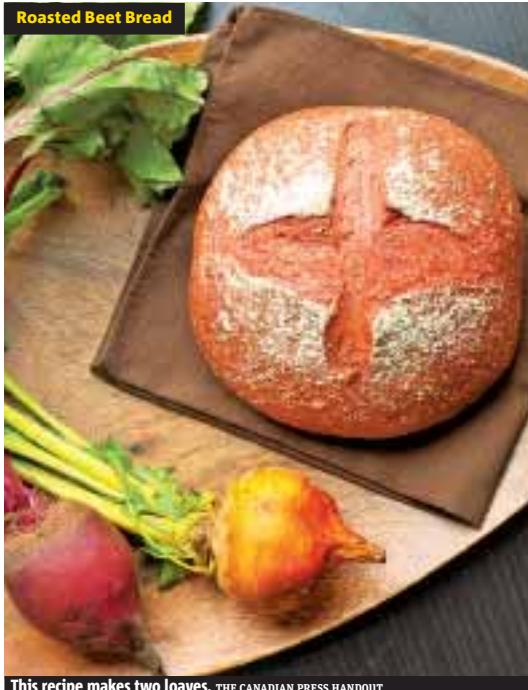


@Jeanne_Beker: At Huntsville Summit Centre, where my childhood dreams have come true. My very own dressing room!



@Jeanne_Beker: Couldn't leave @Denis_Gagnon boutique on Rue St. Paul without buying one of his divine coats!

Upgrade your panini sandwich with unique Roasted Beet Bread



This recipe makes two loaves. THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

Spinach and feta flavours

Night Before

1. In a large bowl, combine these ingredients and beat until well combined. Cover with plastic wrap and let sit for 12 to 16 hours.

Day Of

1. In a saucepan, place 15 ml (1 tbsp) oil and set on stove to warm. Add spinach and sauté till cooked, stirring continuously so spinach doesn't brown. Sauté 2 mins., place on paper towels. Use hands to press down on spinach to squeeze out liquid and set aside.

Ingredients

Night before

- 175 ml (3/4 cup) bread flour
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) lukewarm water
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) instant yeast
- Day of:**
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) oil
- 500 ml (2 cups) chopped fresh spinach
- 300 ml (1 1/4 cups) lukewarm water
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) dark rye flour
- 300 ml (1 1/4 cups) whole-wheat flour, plus extra for sprinkling
- 5 ml (1 tsp) salt
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) instant yeast
- 500 ml (2 cups) bread flour
- 250 ml (1 cup) feta cheese
- Cornmeal



This recipe makes two loaves. THE CANADIAN PRESS HANDOUT

incorporated. (Don't worry if spinach is clumped together; it will break up during kneading.)

4. Put a little oil in a clean, large bowl. Place dough in bowl and turn over till lightly coated on all sides. Cover with plastic wrap and let rest for 2 hours or till double in bulk.

5. Turn dough out onto a flat surface and cut in half. Shape into 2 round loaves and place on cornmeal-covered piece of parchment paper. Sprinkle top of dough with little whole-wheat flour. Cover loaves with plastic wrap and let rest for 1 hour.

6. About 45 mins. before baking, place a baking stone in oven and a cast-iron skillet on the floor of the oven or on lowest rack. (If using baking sheet rather than baking stone, do not place baking sheet into oven beforehand.) Heat oven to 220 C (425 F). Score tops of loaves and place in oven. Pour 250 ml (1 cup) boiling water into hot cast-iron skillet; close oven door.

7. Bake 35 mins. or till loaves sound hollow when tapped on bottom.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/THEKNEDFORBREAD.COM

Day Of

1. To "night before" mixture, add pureed beets and any juice, whole-wheat flour and instant yeast. Mix with a wooden spoon till smooth. Let sit, uncovered, for 10 minutes. Add thyme and salt, mix until smooth.

2. Start to add bread flour. Once it becomes too hard to mix in the bowl, turn dough onto a flat surface and knead for 10 minutes. This will be a sticky dough, so be careful not to add too much flour. Add just enough to prevent dough from really sticking to your fingers when kneading.

3. Add a little olive oil to a clean large bowl. Place dough in bowl and turn over a few times to very

lightly coat all sides of the dough with oil. Cover with plastic wrap. Let dough rise for 1 1/2 hours or till double in bulk. Turn onto a flat surface. Cut dough in half and mould each half into desired shape.

4. Place shaped dough on a piece of parchment paper sprinkled with cornmeal. Spray tops with a little oil spray and cover with plastic wrap for 1 hour or till double in bulk.

5. Heat oven to 200 C (400 F) and place baking stone on centre rack. Place a cast-iron skillet (filled with lava rocks if you have them) on oven floor or on lowest rack. When loaves have doubled, sprinkle with a little whole-wheat flour and slash an X on top of each.

6. Place in hot oven directly on baking stone. Pour about 250 ml (1 cup) boiling water into hot skillet and close oven door.

7. Bake for 30 to 35 min-

Ingredients

Night before

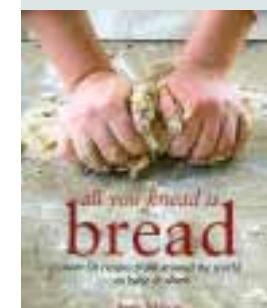
- 250 ml (1 cup) bread flour
- 1 ml (1/4 tsp) instant yeast
- 250 ml (1 cup) lukewarm water

Day of

- 250 ml (1 cup) pureed roasted beets plus any juice
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) stone-ground whole-wheat flour, plus extra for sprinkling
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) instant yeast
- 15 ml (1 tbsp) chopped fresh thyme
- 8 ml (1 3/4 tsp) salt
- 675 ml (2 3/4 cups) bread flour (approx)
- Olive oil
- Cornmeal

Cookbook of the Week

Everything you knead to know



Jane Mason's *All You Knead is Bread* aims to inspire readers to start baking by explaining techniques, demystifying the process with step-by-step photos and presenting a huge variety of breads.

Among the 50 recipes in the book are flavours from all over the world that will go with every meal and can be served as snacks and desserts as well.

Spanning wheat and the myriad of other grains used from country to country, *All You Knead is Bread* features breads such as pita, soda bread, cinnamon buns, cheese rolls, rye bread and more. METRO

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ THEKNEDFORBREAD.COM

Gluten-Free Banana Bread



This recipe makes one loaf. ISTOCK

1. Heat oven to 180 C (350 F). Lightly spray or grease a 23-by-12-cm (9-by-5-inch) loaf pan.

2. In a bowl, combine bean flour, cornstarch, tapioca flour, xanthan gum, baking soda, cream of tartar, salt and cinnamon. Mix together with a wire whisk.

3. In a separate large bowl, combine butter and brown

sugar; slowly add egg substitute and beat until fluffy. Add vanilla and mashed banana. Mix well.

4. Add flour mixture and stir till smooth. Pour into prepared loaf pan and bake for 50 to 55 minutes. Let cool in pan for 10 minutes before removing and let cool on a wire rack.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/ THEKNEDFORBREAD.COM

Ingredients

- 150 ml (2/3 cup) bean flour (light or dark)
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) cornstarch
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) tapioca flour
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) xanthan gum
- 3 ml (3/4 tsp) baking soda
- 6 ml (1 1/4 tsp) cream of tartar
- 2 ml (1/2 tsp) salt
- 7 ml (1 1/2 tsp) cinnamon
- 75 ml (1/3 cup) soft butter
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) brown sugar
- 150 ml (2/3 cup) egg substitute
- 5 ml (1 tsp) vanilla
- 250 ml (1 cup) mashed ripe banana

Need a chandelier? Here are the rules

I would like to hang a chandelier in my 13-by-16-foot dining room. I have 12-foot ceilings and am wondering what style would be best and how high to hang it.
-Emily, Calgary



A chandelier should look like it belongs to the style of your house, not just like it blends with a trendy decor scheme.

Style?
Consider the architectural style of your home — is it modern or traditional? For instance, a boxy modern condo or an arts and crafts style home would have a streamlined chandelier, whereas a cottage-inspired or Victorian home would have a traditional-style fixture.

I like to think of the chandelier in the same category as the style of door knobs and hardware that

are chosen for the house. If you were to move, those items would be left with the house.

How high?

The height your chandelier is hung relates to the table it is hung over, not the height of the ceiling.

The bottom of the chandelier should be hung 30-40 inches from the top of the table; hang it 30 inches if you have regular eight foot ceilings and up to 40 inches above the table if you have extra high ceilings. For 12 foot ceilings (as in your home) the bottom of the chandelier should be about 36-38 inches above the table.

Size?

For rooms with really high ceilings, consider buying a tall-shaped chandelier to help fill up some of the extra height.

In a low-ceiling area, choose a horizontal shape to suit the low space. The diameter of the chandelier should relate to the size of the room — for each foot of the room's width, the chandelier gets two inches of

Designer ideas

- Adding a decorative moulding medallion to the ceiling will add some visual interest up high. Paint the medallion a similar colour to the chandelier's chain (usually gold, silver or bronze).
- A dimmer switch will allow you to create an intimate setting when dining.
- Choose energy-efficient chandelier bulbs to save moving the table to change the bulbs each year.
- The finish of your chandelier should match the other hardware items like door handles, hinges and light switches in the room.

diameter. For instance, your dining room is 13 feet wide, therefore a 26 inch diameter (13-by-two feet) would be perfect.



Choose a chandelier that suits the architectural style of your home. 1920's Odeon Glass Fringe Chandelier, \$3,000, restorationhardware.com.



A tall-shaped chandelier will help fill up a dining space that has tall ceilings. Winston Chandelier, \$430, crateandbarrel.com.



A long and low chandelier suits a dining space with lower ceilings. Crystal Pendant with Organza Shade, \$800, sears.ca.



Save money and effort with LED bulbs, which save up to 80 per cent energy and can last up to 15 years. Philips DecorLED Dimmable Chandelier Bulb, \$16, homedepot.ca.

Cleaning

Fireplace a little dirty? Call a pro

Is cleaning my fireplace something I can do on my own or do I need a professional?



You absolutely need a professional.

A professional chimney cleaner not only cleans the



Cleaning your fireplace is no DIY project. ISTOCK IMAGES

fireplace, but also, more importantly, inspects the mortar between the bricks, ensures that the flue is working properly and checks that the exhaust is

clear of any debris and animals.

The professional will also ensure the chimney cap is in good order and that the fireplace draw is sufficient for a safe fire.

These are important things to check and should not be thought of as a waste of money. Chimney fires are caused by creosote on the inner surfaces of the chimney. The entire house can burn down if this is not maintained properly.

Enjoy your fireplace, but remember to maintain it and be safe.

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HARD-CHARGING RAM



If fuel economy, or lack thereof, killed the mid-sized Dakota, the Ram Boys aren't about to let that happen to the Ram 1500.

Its one big weak spot, fuel consumption, has been rectified for 2013 with Chrysler's ever-popular 3.6-litre V6 that bumps the ancient 3.7-litre V6 out of the engine bay. Horsepower climbs 42 per cent to 305 from 215 and fuel performance similarly improves to 11.4 l/100 km city and 7.8 highway, compared to 15.0/10.0. That's a huge difference.

The Ram also gets a new eight-speed automatic transmission that will also be attached to the 395-horsepower, 5.7-litre "Hemi" V8. This engine shut down four of its eight cylinders when not needed, such as at under light-load conditions or when headed downhill. A dash-mounted rotary shifter replaces the traditional column and console shifter. Returning is the 4.7-litre V8 rated at 310 horsepower. It's linked to a six-speed automatic.

For 2013, Rams get further fuel-

reduction assistance including stop-start technology that turns off the engine at rest, then instantly fires it up again once the brake pedal is released. Electric power steering cuts parasitic power losses. Subtle aerodynamic body improvements and active grille shutters help, too. Optional is an air suspension with load levelling and five height settings, one of which drops the body at highway speeds by 1.5 centimetres to cut the wind a bit better. Finally, a new thermal manage-

BASE PRICES (INCL. DESTINATION)

RAM 1500: FULL-SIZE PICKUP: \$28,500
RAM HD: FULL-SIZE HEAVY-DUTY ONE- AND THREE-QUARTER PICKUPS: \$32,000

ment system is designed to quickly get the Ram's crankcase oil and other fluids up to operational temperatures, which assists in conserving gas.

The Ram 2500 and 3500 series pickups have upped the stakes with the optional Cummins turbo-diesel that's available in bad, badder and baddest grades for 2013. The tamest of the 6.7-litre inline six-cylinder powerplants is rated at 350 horsepower and 660 pound-feet of torque, while the intermediate version pushes those numbers up to 370 horsepower and 800 pound-feet. For maximum thrust and grunt, the 385-horse unit lays down a mind-numbing 850 pound-feet of torque.

The Cummins can be matched to a six-speed manual transmission (the only shift-it-yourself in its class), or a six-speed automatic. The result is a truck that can haul and tow an inordinate amount of whatever you have; up to 7,730 kilograms of trailer weight and up to 820 kilograms of tongue weight using a conventional Class V hitch. — *wheelbasemedia.com*

BEAUTIFUL ROLLING SCULPTURE

HYUNDAI SANTA FE

Some of the hottest styling comes from the sketch pads at Hyundai. Just look at the new Santa Fe. Hyundai has gone from building cars that people on a budget had to buy, to beautiful rolling sculpture that you just have to buy.

The Santa Fe wagon is available in five- and seven-passenger sizes. The shorter-wheelbase five-passenger Santa Fe Sport arrives first, followed by the longer (by 22 centimetres) seven-passenger Santa Fe in early calendar 2013. The bigger Santa Fe is heftier than the Sport by more than 150 kilograms, which explains why it's only available with a 290-horsepower, 3.3-litre V6 that replaces the previously optional 274-horsepower, 3.5-litre V6.

Conversely, the Sport comes with a base 190-horsepower, 2.4-litre four-cylinder, or optional 264-horsepower



Hyundai Santa Fe

2.0-litre turbocharged four-cylinder. In all cases the only transmission is a six-speed automatic with manual shift controls.

Hyundai will let you add its latest all-wheel-drive setup with any Santa Fe you select. The system includes Torque Vectoring Corner Control (TVCC) that monitors driving conditions and can instantaneously direct the correct amount of power or braking force to any single wheel.

TVCC assists in slippery conditions

BASE PRICES (INCL. DESTINATION)

SANTA FE: COMPACT SUV: \$28,250
TUCSON: COMPACT SUV, \$21,750

and provides added precision when negotiating turns.

The Santa Fe features plenty of

standard content plus unexpected treats, including Driver Selectable Steering Mode with Normal, Comfort (reduces steering effort by 10 per cent) and Sport (increases effort by the same amount) settings.

Turbo models add performance suspension components (stiffer shocks and stabilizer bars), 19-inch wheels (17s are standard), fancier gauge cluster, push-button start and heated front seats.

— *wheelbasemedia.com*



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Time is now: Jays suddenly a big fish

Moving up. Deal makes Toronto a contender in ultra-competitive AL East

Toronto Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos made it clear when the season ended that addressing his team's starting pitching needs would be a top off-season priority.

He delivered on that plan and dramatically changed the look of the franchise with one of the biggest trades in team history.

The deal between the Blue Jays and Miami Marlins won't get final approval until the players pass physicals. When that happens, Toronto will immediately be considered a contender for the first time since capturing back-to-back World Series titles in 1992 and 1993.

According to various reports, right-hander Josh Johnson, left-hander Mark Buehrle and all-star shortstop Jose Reyes are heading north along with infielder Emilio Bonifacio and catcher John Buck.

Shortstop Yunel Escobar is Miami-bound along with infielder Adeiny Hechavarria, right-hander Henderson Alvarez, catcher Jeff Mathis and prospects Anthony DeSclafani, and catcher John Buck.



Pending physicals, Mark Buehrle, left, Jose Reyes, centre, and Josh Johnson will be Blue Jays after Tuesday night's blockbuster trade. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS FILE

Justin Nicolino and Jake Marisnick.

"It's still got to bear fruit on the field," said Cary Kaplan, president of Mississauga-based sports-management company Cosmos Sports. "But I think people feel very happy today — those that are Blue Jays fans — and I think there are people on the fence that will move to the other side."

Johnson, Buehrle and Brandon Morrow provide a deep 1-2-3 punch in the starting rotation. Reyes is a big step up from Escobar, Bonifacio should fill a hole at second base and Buck gives the team an experienced hand behind the plate.

Toronto didn't give up too much from its current roster to make the deal. In Escobar, the Marlins get a mediocre shortstop who fell out of favour in Toronto after writing an anti-gay slur in Spanish on his eyeball stickers.

Mathis was a decent backup and Alvarez posted middling numbers in 2012, but he could be a stud down the line.

The prospect price was heavy as Hechavarria could develop into a star. DeSclafani, Nicolino and Marisnick also have plenty of potential.

After years of playing with an eye to the future, this deal appears to show that the Blue Jays' time is now.

The new additions make the club much deeper, but they don't come cheap.

Johnson is owed \$13.75 million US next season, Reyes has \$96 million left on a deal expiring in 2018 and Buehrle has \$52 million remaining on a deal expiring in 2015.

THE CANADIAN PRESS/
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clubhouse questions

Pressure on to land new skipper

After John Farrell's embarrassing exit last month — jumping ship partway through his contract to pursue his "dream job" in Boston — Blue Jays general manager Alex Anthopoulos is under considerable pressure to find a long-term solution to the club's manager problem while also engaging in his most important off-season in Toronto.

The 35-year-old says he has entered the "final stages" of his manager search, which is expected to be resolved within the next two weeks before baseball's winter meetings open on Dec. 3.

Anthopoulos has declined to publicly name his shortlist of candidates, but perceived frontrunners range from members of the current coaching staff, such as Don Wakamatsu and Luis Rivera; external candidates who have yet to manage in the big leagues, such as Sandy Alomar Jr. and Tim Wallach; and experienced skippers like Jim Tracy and Manny Acta.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



Blue Jays GM Alex Anthopoulos
TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE FILE

How things change

A look at five other blockbuster trades from the Jays' past:

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE
Photos by Getty Images



December 1990

The Jays acquired Roberto Alomar and Joe Carter from San Diego while saying goodbye to Tony Fernandez and Fred McGriff. Alomar and Carter were arguably the most important players in the Jays' World Series titles in 1992 and '93.



November 1996

The Jays completed what was then the largest trade in club history in a nine-player deal with Pittsburgh, acquiring left-hander Dan Plesac, pictured, along with Carlos Garcia and Orlando Merced for six mostly minor-league players.



February 1999

The Jays traded their two-time Cy Young winner Roger Clemens to the New York Yankees for lefty David Wells, reliever Graeme Lloyd and infielder Homer Bush.



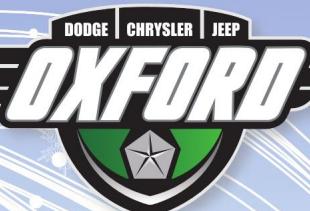
December 2009

Rookie GM Alex Anthopoulos was tested early in dealing Roy Halladay. Halladay's trade demands limited Anthopoulos to dealing with Philadelphia, but he was still able to get top prospects Travis d'Arnaud, Kyle Drabek and Michael Taylor.



December 2010

The next off-season, Anthopoulos dealt Opening Day starter Shaun Marcum to Milwaukee in exchange for Canadian third-base prospect Brett Lawrie, who figures to be a cornerstone of the franchise for years to come.



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Lockout. NHL, NHLPA have no plans to meet

Now the NHL and the locked-out players' association aren't even talking by phone.

With the lockout entering its third month, communications between the fighting sides have come to a halt with no clear sign of what the next step will be or when it will be taken.

"No, we have not communicated today," NHL deputy commissioner Bill Daly told The Associated Press on Wednesday in an email. "No meetings scheduled, and no plans to meet."

After four straight days of negotiations in New York last week, talks broke off

Games lost

So far, 327 games — all those scheduled through Nov. 30 and the New Year's Day outdoor Winter Classic — have been cancelled by the NHL.

angrily Friday night. Discussions resumed on Sunday, solely regarding player contract terms, but that meeting ended after only 90 minutes.

Daly says that no decisions have been made to call off any more games.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Olympics

COC doubles up on financial support

The Canadian Olympic Committee will be almost doubling its financial support for Olympic sports over the next four years with an injection of about \$100 million, president Marcel Aubut said Wednesday.

Ottawa has also promised to keep its funding for Olympic sport intact, he said.

The \$100 million will go to support both summer and winter events as well as to prepare for the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto.

It represents an injection of close to \$50 million in new money, Aubut said. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Little sizzle before the fireworks at UFC 154

UFC. Bookmakers have Georges St-Pierre as a 3-1 favourite to beat Carlos Condit in Montreal event

The two rivals sat on stage flanked by their championship belts. But fans hoping for fireworks between Georges St-Pierre and Carlos (Natural Born Killer) Condit will have to wait for Saturday night in the cage.

On Wednesday, all the two welterweights did was look good and try to kill their opponent with kindness at the UFC 154 news conference in Montreal.

Condit called St-Pierre "a benchmark" of mixed martial arts.

"I'm honoured to have the chance to compete against Georges," said the 28-year-old native of Albuquerque, N.M., who admits to weeping when offered the bout. "He is someone I've admired as a fighter for a long time. But he's where I want to be, he's the top guy



Georges St-Pierre, left, squares off with Carlos Condit following a press conference in Montreal on Wednesday ahead of their UFC 154 title fight on Saturday. GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

in the sport, top guy in the division. He has cemented a legacy as the best welterweight in the world and that's what I want.

"So all admiration aside, I'm coming to take that from

him."

St-Pierre, who has been sidelined for 18 months due to reconstructive knee surgery, says Condit is the ultimate test in his comeback.

"I have something to prove

to myself," said the 31-year-old Montreal native.

"I want to prove to myself that I'm still the best guy in the world and I believe the best guy right now is Carlos."

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Horoscopes

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

If you allow yourself to get angry, it will distort your judgment and you will make a mistake. Then you'll be angrier than before. Remember: There is a reason for everything that happens in life, even the "bad" things.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 20

It may seem as if someone you have feelings for is trying to avoid you, but most likely it is your imagination playing tricks. Give them the space they seem to need, and soon they'll be back at your side.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

The more others try to push you in directions you don't want to go, the more you must resist. Also, be careful when exerting yourself physically. The Sun in the wellbeing area of your chart warns you to put your health first.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

You have been too soft with someone who has been taking liberties and now you must go to the other extreme and come down on them hard. If you let things continue as they are, chaos will be the result.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

You sense that something big is about to happen, something that will change your life for the better. As usual, your instincts are spot on. So, keep your eyes and ears open and be ready to act.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You seem to have rather a lot to say for yourself at the moment, and that's fine. But watch out that you don't say too much over the next 24 hours or you could find you have given up your advantage. Knowledge is power.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

It may seem as if you are losing something valuable, and maybe you are, but there is no point worrying about it. The planets indicate what you have to give up now will be replaced by something much better very soon.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

You will be under a lot of pressure today and tomorrow as several issues come to a head at the same time. You will find ways to stay on top of them but schedule yourself a restful weekend. You'll need it!

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

For some reason, you are worked up about something that, nine times out of ten, would not worry you. Remind yourself it is of no great importance. In a matter of hours, it will be forgotten.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Steer clear of a friend's personal affairs today. The planets warn that if you allow yourself to get involved, you will find it almost impossible to get out again. And you'll end up getting most of the blame.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

If your reputation is important to you then you will have to defend it today. It seems that someone is determined to undermine your authority and you cannot afford to let that happen. Take the battle to them.

♓ Pisces

Feb. 20 - March 20

You may think you can get away with anything at the moment but Saturn, the great taskmaster of the zodiac, says otherwise. Think things through carefully before you act and, if in doubt, don't act at all. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Canadian Crossword

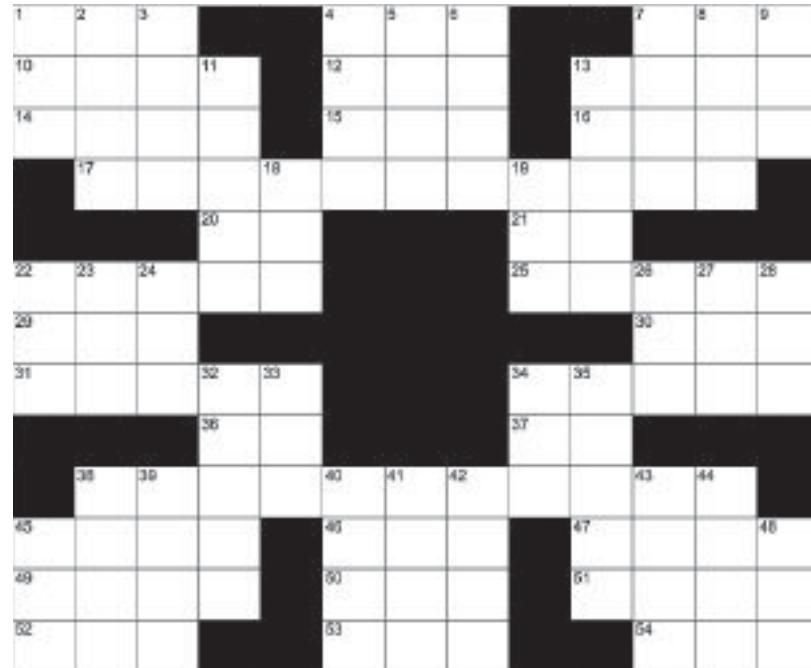
Across

1. Roseanne's hubby
4. Cooking utensil
7. Healthy
10. The Bold —
12. Pitcher's stat.
13. Family group
14. Break in two
15. Salt (Fr.)
16. Rave's partner
17. Noblemen
20. Deal or — Deal
21. Bible pt.
22. Mended a skirt
25. Dogma
29. Past due
30. Island (Fr.)
31. Bad neighbourhood
34. That Don't Impress Me Much! singer
36. Model Railroad gauge
37. Midwestern state
38. Helmut wearing transports
45. Bird of peace
46. Schnozz ending
47. After midnight
49. — to Avonlea
50. Days of — Lives
51. Nova
52. Fashion designer (abbr.)
53. Mad —
54. Avenues

Down

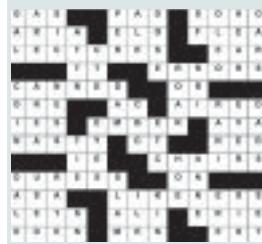
1. — and don'ts
2. Siam woman
3. Close by
4. Fly or hornet
5. Chocolate layer cookie
6. Bath powder
7. Level
8. Ziering and McShane
9. Dynamite (abbr.)
11. Quill
13. Large wooden box
18. Grass
19. Go bad
22. Distress signal
23. Farmyard animal
24. Tiny
26. Actress Vardalos
27. Ed role for Daryl Mitchell
28. Countdown number
32. Adored
33. Greeting: — hoo

BY BETTY MARTIN



34. Spasm
35. Room dividers
38. Cows comments
39. Egg shape
40. — 222
41. Popular board game
42. Kitten's plaything
43. Food networks, Good —
44. Immediately, in the ER
45. Arid
48. Vocalized pauses

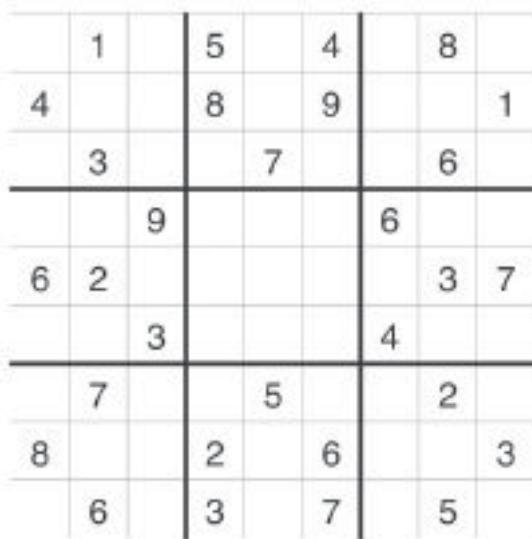
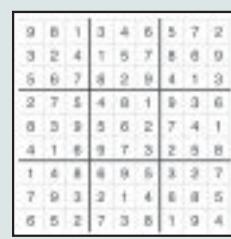
Yesterday's Crossword



Sudoku

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Yesterday's Sudoku



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